Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The state of South Dakota is the home of Gretta Svendsen, and we are richer because Gretta lives among us; and,

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Whereas, Elmer Sumner was born on January 10, 1904, on a farm near Florence, South Dakota, to Jabe and Annie (Miller) Sumner, and joined four older sisters; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Elmer was educated in Florence and began farming at a young age, but due to a farm accident, he hired help with the farming and was also involved in mink farming and a furnace business with his brother-in-law until Elmer retired in 1960; and,

Whereas, Elmer married his wife, Marion, on December 24, 1932, and Marion taught in a country school as well as in Florence, and both were active members of the New Helgen Lutheran Church; and,

Whereas, Elmer enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing card games, gardening, and reading in his younger years, and since moving to the Jenkins Living Center in June 2000, he has enjoyed visiting with other residents, visitors, and staff; and,

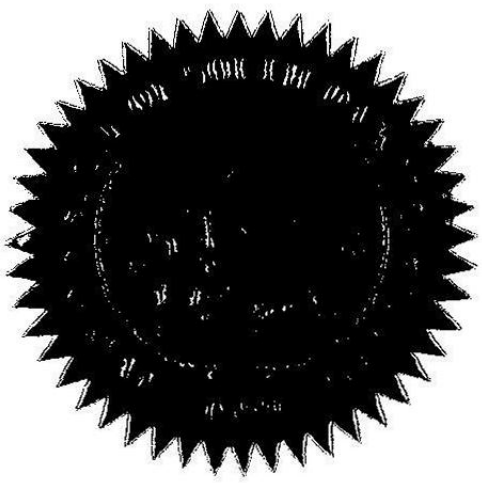
Whereas, Elmer maintains a close relationship with his nephew, Burdette, and niece, Ruth, and their families; and,

Whereas, Elmer will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather at the Jenkins Living Center on January 9, 2004, to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim January 10, 2004, as

ELMER SUMNER DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State